

Introduced by Senator MargettFebruary 21, 2002

An act to amend Section 627 of the Penal Code, relating to crimes.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1693, as introduced, Margett. School crimes: access to school premises.

Existing law contains provisions which, at the option of a school board, apply to the grounds of a public school in the district to prohibit an outsider, as defined, from entering school grounds during school hours unless the outsider is registered with the principal of the school or his or her designee, as specified.

This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to these provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 627 of the Penal Code is amended to
2 read:
3 627. (a) The Legislature finds the following:
4 (1) Violent crimes perpetrated on public school grounds
5 interfere with the education of students and threaten the health and
6 safety of teachers, other employees, and students.
7 (2) Many serious crimes of violence are committed on school
8 grounds by persons who are neither students nor school employees
9 and who are not otherwise authorized to be present on school
10 grounds.



1 (3) School officials and law enforcement officers, in seeking to
2 control these persons, have been hindered by the lack of effective
3 legislation restricting the access of unauthorized persons to school
4 grounds and providing appropriate criminal sanctions for
5 unauthorized entry.

6 (b) The Legislature declares that the purpose of this chapter is
7 to safeguard the teachers, other employees, students, and property
8 of public schools. The Legislature recognizes the right to visit
9 school grounds for legitimate nonviolent purposes and does not
10 intend by this enactment to interfere with the exercise of that right.

11 (c) The Legislature finds and declares that a disproportionate
12 share of crimes committed on school campuses are committed by
13 persons who are neither students, school officials, or staff, and who
14 have no lawful business on the school grounds.

15 (d) It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting this chapter to
16 promote the safety and security of the public schools by restricting
17 and conditioning the access of unauthorized persons to school
18 campuses and to thereby implement the provisions of Section 28
19 of Article 1 of the California Constitution which guarantee all
20 students and staff the inalienable constitutional right to attend safe,
21 secure, and peaceful public schools. It is also the intent of the
22 Legislature that the provisions of this chapter shall not be
23 construed to infringe upon the legitimate exercise of
24 constitutionally protected rights of freedom of speech and
25 expression which may be expressed through rallies,
26 demonstrations, and other forms of expression which may be
27 appropriately engaged in by students and nonstudents in a campus
28 setting.

